

Hydrichthys, rather than that *Hydrichthys* is a parasitic descendant of *Verella*; while the acceptance of the last-mentioned theory would lead us to regard fixed Hydroids like *Coryne* as likewise descendants of parasitic forms with which they have few resemblances. Indeed, we know next to nothing of the egg and early growth of either *Hydrichthys* or *Verella*. We have at all events found in *Hydrichthys* a nearly ally of *Verella* as far as the Hydroid is concerned, whatever may be the story told by the early history of both.

There is also another point long since known to those familiar with the literature of the Hydromedusæ, which is beautifully illustrated by *Hydrichthys*. Several naturalists have mentioned or called attention to the resemblance of the Medusæ of Hydroids of very different form. We may have Medusæ so nearly related as to be placed in the same genus, but their Hydroids would otherwise be placed in different genera. In *Hydrichthys* we have an illustration of this principle. The Medusa is similar to *Sarsia*, but there is only a remote likeness between the attached Hydroid *Hydrichthys* and *Coryne* the Hydroid of *Sarsia*. If a special student of the Hydroids was called upon to identify the parasitic Hydroid, he would consider its zoological distance from *Coryne* very considerable; but a study of the Medusa would lead him to a very different opinion of its zoological position.

Do these facts of a difference in the form of the Hydroids of allied Medusiform gonophores, or *vice versâ*, as sometimes happens, the diversity of Medusæ derived from similar Hydroids, mean anything morphologically? The question is an interesting one, and admits of several interpretations, which, however, it is not my purpose to consider at present. There is one thing which has a bearing on the subject, which I wish in closing to say in this connexion, viz.: *the true affinities of the majority of genera of Campanularian or Tubularian Hydroids, or of Leptomedusæ and Anthomedusæ derived from the same, cannot be definitely made out until both Hydroid and Medusa are studied together.*

XLIX.—*Notice of a remarkable Ophiurid from Brazil.*

By F. JEFFREY BELL, M.A.

AMONG the specimens recently collected at Itamaraca, a few miles from Pernambuco, by Mr. Ramage, and forwarded to

the British Museum, are three examples of a remarkable Ophiurid, to which I should like to direct the attention of naturalists who may be collecting in Brazilian or West-Indian waters. The form is, in the first place, remarkable for the extraordinary length of the arms in proportion to the diameter of the disk, for while the latter measures about 4 millim., the arms are no less than 150 millim. long.; the proportion of arm to disk is therefore as 1:37.5, or more than twice that of *Ophiothrix longipeda*, which Mr. Lyman gives as 1:18.

It is, unfortunately, impossible to be certain of the genus to which this very long-armed form is to be referred, for from all three examples the covering of the disk has been lost, and this loss has, in a very curious way, affected also the dorsal surfaces of the most proximal arm-joints. The loss of this upper surface would, if it were natural (and the close similarity between the specimens leads one to imagine that it is so), be more or less fatal to the animal in inverse proportion to the quantity of carbonate of lime which, in the form of covering-plates, ordinarily protects the disk. On the assumption that that quantity is small, or that the greater part of the disk is naked, the species now under consideration appears to be allied to the genera *Ophionema* and *Ophionephthys* of Dr. Lütken. In these genera the arms are likewise long, though by no means so extraordinarily long as in the Brazilian form, and they are both represented in the West-Indian seas. Naturalists who have the opportunity of observing this long-armed form in life should direct particular attention to this loss of the disk, with a view to answering such questions as whether the loss is in any way associated with the act of reproduction, whether the disk becomes restored, and, if so, whether the restoration is effected rapidly.

As it is convenient to have a name for our object, the species may be provisionally placed in the genus *Ophionephthys* * and be called *O. sesquipedalis*. The following description will probably serve the collector as a means of identifying it:—

Disk very small; arms narrow, exceedingly long, and probably, when complete, as much as forty times the diameter of the disk; three short arm-spines, one tentacle-scale. Upper arm-plates very regularly oblong, the proximal and distal edges quite straight, about three times as wide as long.

* If it should be found that this is its proper place it will be necessary to so far amend the diagnosis of that genus as to diminish to two the number of the mouth-papillæ and to three the number of the arm-spines.

Arm-spines subequal. Under arm-plates very regular, rather wider than long.

The upper arm-plates are of a dark colour with a lighter proximal margin; the spines and the lower plates are much paler.

Hab. Itamaraca, Brazil.

L.—*Descriptions of new Species of Oriental Cicadidæ.*

By W. L. DISTANT.

Leptopsaltria picturata, n. sp.

♂. Body above brownish ochraceous; head, excluding base, much suffused with piceous, the ocelli red, the eyes castaneous. Pronotum with a central, longitudinal, fuscous fascia, the margins of which are black, amplified anteriorly and notched and narrowed posteriorly; and an oblique piceous fascia near each lateral margin. Mesonotum with a central, longitudinal, linear fascia, on each side of which is a curved, linear, discal fascia extending to anterior margin; a broad fascia on each lateral area, and a spot at each anterior angle of the cruciform basal elevation, piceous. Abdomen sparingly greyly pilose, with a double discal series and a more continuous series of piceous spots on each lateral margin; base of anal segment also piceous. Body beneath ochraceous; bases of anterior femora, bases and apices of the tibiæ, apices of the tarsi, abdominal tubercles, and anal segment of the abdomen piceous; anal appendage luteous. Tegmina and wings pale hyaline, the venation fuscous; the tegmina with a small costal ochraceous and fuscous spot at base of the upper ulnar area, and the transverse veins at the bases of the first, second, and third apical areas infuscated.

The rostrum has the apex piceous and just passing the posterior coxæ, and the face is depressed and somewhat flattened.

Long. excl. tegm. 15 millim., exp. tegm. 44 millim.

Hab. Nilgiri Hills, northern slopes, 5000 feet (*Hampson*).
Coll. Dist.

Leptopsaltria andamanensis, n. sp.

♂. Body above reddish ochraceous, ocelli reddish. Pronotum with the centre of the anterior margin and the whole of the posterior margin (widest at centre) blackish. Meso-